Demands/mention points	Details of action taken/ progress report
cases from the date of then eligibility as per applicable Service Rules.	

Making of Hindi Test Compulsory in Entrance Exams of Defence Services

†4207. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question paper of English is compulsory in NDA, CDS and other entrance examinations of defence services;

(b) whether the question paper of Hindi is also compulsory or it is allowed as an optional paper;

(c) whether the high level qualifications in English are considered necessary for higher officers of defence services;

(d) whether the qualification in Hindi is also desirable; and

(e) if so, the action taken so far/proposed to be taken for examining the qualification of Hindi in entrance examinations of defence services?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Union Public Service Commission conducts two examinations *viz.* the National Defence Academy and Naval Academy Examination (NDA & NA) and the Combined Defence Services Examination (CDS) for admission to various Defence Academies. The syllabi for these examinations contain English as a subject paper. The question papers for both the examinations are of objective type (multiple choice).

(c) Good knowledge of English is preferable for higher officers of defence services.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The issue of introduction of Hindi as a medium of NDA & NA and CDS examinations is at present under the consideration of the Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.